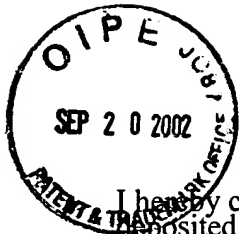


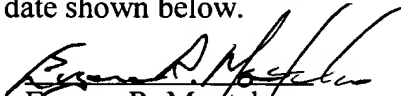
ELL645501167US

#10B
9/26/02
A.V.



PATENT
TH-1213 (US)
ERM:SWT

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on or before the date shown below.


Eugene R. Montalvo
Date: September 20, 2002

RECEIVED

SEP 25 2002

Technology Center 2100

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

JANICE LYNN FARMER

Serial No. 09/306,135

Filed May 6, 1999

HAZARD COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

Group Art Unit: 2177

Examiner: Khanh Pham

September , 2002

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Attorney for Applicants hereby files this Preliminary Amendment in the above-captioned case. At the time the Final Office Action issued, claims 1 – 17 were pending. Attorney has concurrently filed a Request for Continuing Examination and a Petition for a two month extension of time in which to respond to the Office Action. The Amendments and Remarks set forth below are responsive to the Final Office mailed April 20, 2002.

AMENDMENTS

Attorney requests that the following amendments be entered in the application. A red-lined version of the amendments is attached as Appendix A.